

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Previously presented): A method of controlling access to electronic information comprising the steps of:

- providing at least one user apparatus;
- a remote server; and
- a communications link between the at least one user apparatus and the remote server;
- allocating disk storage space on the remote server unique to the at least one user apparatus;
- allowing at least one user access to the storage space via username and password login to the server and via secure encryption of data sent to or from the user apparatus from or to the server; and
- allowing at least one further user access to the data storage space and wherein the further users access to the data storage space can be managed by the at least one user with regard to times and dates when the at least one further user can write to and/or read from the data storage space.

Claim 2 (Previously presented): A method of controlling access to electronic information as claimed in claim 1, wherein the secure encryption comprises:

- transactions involving access to the storage space being protected by a requirement for a user to present a digital certificate.

Claim 3 (Previously presented): A method of controlling access to electronic information as claimed in claim 2, wherein the digital certificate is required whenever the user attempts to write to or read from the storage space.

Claim 4 (Original): A method of controlling access to electronic information as claimed in claim 3, wherein data sent by a user apparatus is encrypted by public key in the case of SSL transactions and additionally by private key via presentation of a digital certificate in the case of accessing the data storage space.

Claim 5 (Original): A method of controlling access to electronic information as claimed in claim 4, wherein data received by the server is decrypted via private key in the case of SSL transactions and by public key in the case of digital certificate verification accessing the data storage space.

Claim 6 (Cancelled)

Claim 7 (Previously presented): A method of controlling access to electronic information as claimed in claim 1, wherein each said at least one further user is allowed access to the data storage space upon presentation of a further digital certificate.

Claim 8 (Previously presented): A method of controlling access to electronic information as claimed claim 1, wherein the communications link comprises the Internet.

Claim 9 (Previously presented): An electronic safety deposit system or tender box system comprising:

- at least one user apparatus;
- a remote server;
- a communications link between the at least one user apparatus and the remote server;
- disk storage space allocated on the remote server unique to the at least one user apparatus;
- means for allowing at least one user access to the storage space via username and password login and via secure encryption of data sent to or from the user apparatus from or to the server;
- means for allowing at least one further user access to the data storage space; and

means for managing the further users access to the data storage space by the at least one user with regard to times and dates when the at least one further user can write to and/or read from the data storage space.

Claim 10 (Previously presented): A method of providing an account-based Internet/Intranet service which allows an at least one account holder to:

create at least one secure electronic deposit box on a centralised server in which box or boxes store documentation in a secure environment;

manage timeframes for invited participants to access said documentation and/or for the invited participants to upload to the centralised server further documentation, wherein

the method utilizes a method of controlling access to electronic information as claimed in claim 1.

Claim 11 (Original): A method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the method further allows the at least one account holder to track activity relating to each said at least one electronic deposit box.

Claim 12 (Previously presented): A secure electronic deposit or tender box system comprising an account-based Internet or Intranet server system with a worldwide web (HTTP) interface for uploading and downloading documentation onto a centralised server in a secure environment, using digital certificates to ensure data confidentiality, data integrity, data authentication, non-repudiation and proof of origin and receipt, the system using an electronic safety deposit system as claimed in claim 9.

Claim 13 (Previously presented): A programmed computer or server adapted to implement the method of claim 1.

Claims 14-16 (Cancelled)

Claim 17 (Previously presented): A method of controlling access to electronic

information as claimed in claim 2, wherein the secure encryption further comprises transactions between user and server being encrypted using Secure Socket Layer (SSL).

Claim 18 (Previously presented): An electronic safety deposit system or tender box system as claimed in claim 9, wherein the secure encryption comprises transactions involving access to the storage space being further protected by a requirement for a user to present a digital certificate, in use.

Claim 19 (Cancelled)

Claim 20 (Previously presented): A programmed computer or server adapted to implement the method of claim 10.

Claim 21 (Previously presented): A programmed computer or server adapted to implement the method of claim 11.

Claims 22-26 (Cancelled)

Claim 27 (New): A method of controlling access to electronic information as claimed in claim 1, wherein managing of the at least one further users access to the data storage space by the at least one user involves the at least one user setting at least one date and at least one time period for access by the at least one further users.

Claim 28 (New): A method of controlling access to electronic information as claimed in claim 1, wherein access to the data storage space by the at least one user is inhibited when the access to the data storage space by the further users is allowed.

Claim 29 (New): A programmed computer or server adapted to implement the method of claim 1.